The State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

ROBERT L. MORGAN
*Executive Director*

LOWELL P. BRAXTON
*Division Director*

OLENE S. WALKER
*Governor*

GAYLE F. McKEACHNIE
*Lieutenant Governor*

# Inspection Report

| Permit Number: | C0070038 |
|---|---|
| Inspection Type: | PARTIAL |
| Inspection Date: | Thursday, November 20, 2003 |
| Start Date/Time: | 11/20/2003 10:00:00 AM |
| End Date/Time: | 11/20/2003 2:00:00 PM |
| Last Inspection: | Wednesday, October 29, 2003 |

**Representatives Present During the Inspection:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Company | Johnny Pappas Sr. Environmental Engineer |
| OGM | Daron R. Haddock Environmental Manager |

**Inspector:** Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III

**Weather:** Sunny, warm; 40's Fahrenheit

**InspectionID Report Number:** 98

**Accepted by:** dhaddock
**11/25/2003**

**Permitee:** PLATEAU MINING CORP
**Operator:** PLATEAU MINING CORP
**Site:** WILLOW CREEK MINE
**Address:** 847 NW HWY 191, HELPER UT 84526
**County:** CARBON
**Permit Type:** PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM
**Permit Status:** ACTIVE

**Current Acreages**

| | |
|---|---|
| 14,670.00 | Total Permitted |
| 161.55 | Total Disturbed |
| | Phase I |
| | Phase II |
| | Phase III |

**Mineral Ownership**

- [x] Federal
- [ ] State
- [ ] County
- [x] Fee
- [x] Other

**Types of Operations**

- [ ] Underground
- [ ] Surface
- [ ] Loadout
- [ ] Processing
- [ ] Reprocessing

**Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Divison Orders, and amendments:**

Today's partial inspection was conducted in conjunction with the mid-term permit review site visit which was initiated by the Division on October 16, 2003. Mr. Daron Haddock was in attendance during today's inspection. The permittee's contractor has completed the reclamation activities in the Crandall Canyon area. All seeding and hydromulching has been completed, including the area which had been used to store the topsoil which was used for this reclamation.

Approximately one-half of the structure which previously housed the coal washing facilities has been razed. A hydraulic track mounted shear is reducing the metal pieces for final disposal.

**Inspector's Signature:** /S/ **Date** Friday, November 21, 2003

Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III
Inspector ID Number: 46

**Note:** This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

***REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENT***

1. ***Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.***
   a. ***For COMPLETE inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check Not Applicable.***
   b. ***For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.***
2. ***Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.***
3. ***Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performace standard listed below.***
4. ***Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Divison Orders, and amendments.***

| | Evaluated | Not Applicable | Comment | Enforcement |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2. Signs and Markers | ☑ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3. Topsoil | ☑ | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ |
| 4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions | ☑ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments | ☑ | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ |
| 4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures | ☑ | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ |
| 4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5. Explosives | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments | ☑ | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ |
| 8. Noncoal Waste | ☑ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues | ☑ | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ |
| 10. Slides and Other Damage | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 11. Contemporaneous Reclamation | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 12. Backfilling And Grading | ☑ | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ |
| 13. Revegetation | ☑ | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ |
| 14. Subsidence Control | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 15. Cessation of Operations | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 16.b Roads: Drainage Controls | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 17. Other Transportation Facilities | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 19. AVS Check | ☑ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 20. Air Quality Permit | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 21. Bonding and Insurance | ☑ | ☐ | ☑ | ☐ |
| 22. Other | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

**3. Topsoil**

**The topsoil storage pile which provided the volumes required to reclaim the Crandall Canyon area has had all of the recoverable volume used for that project. The original surface has been roughened, seeded and mulched, as has the access road across the drainage. Large rocks have been placed at the junction of the access and main Canyon roads to hopefully bar access to the area.**

**4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments**

**As noted in previous inspection reports, both ponds in the Crandall Canyon surface facilities area have been removed. The final surface configuration would have left the ponds above grade and useless. Exhibit 20, Section 3.7, Crandall Canyon, Chapter 3, page 54, contains a reference to Appendix 3.7-7Q, which contains calculations of sediment yield utilizing no erosion protection, natural vegetative cover and the proposed vegetative cover, mechanical treatment, and mulching which has been utilized for the Crandall Canyon site. The concluding statement of this section states that "the alternative sediment control measures will not result in additional contributions of sediment to the hydrologic system."**

**4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures**

**The Mine site area contains five alternate sediment control areas, as described in Exhibit 13, page 26 of the mining and reclamation plan. A sixth ASCA, is described, but same was never constructed in the field (the Barn Canyon ventilation shaft). The fives ASCA's include the main topsoil pile in Willow Creek Canyon, the entrance and exit to the long conveyor tunnel, (2), the access to the Mine site from State Highway 191, and the AML area, which lies east of the main topsoil pile ASCA. The areas of the wash plant which utilize alternate sediment control methods are the rail loading facility (a designed catch basin), the Gravel Canyon topsoil pile storage facility, and the topsoil pile located adjacent to the main gate in Crandall Canyon. All topsoil storage areas utilize designed berms, as well as vegetation to minimize erosion and prevent loss of the resource. All piles are well vegetated. There was no visual indication of sediment leaving the disturbed area at any of the areas utilizing other sedment control methods.**

**7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments**

**The permittee has scheduled a meeting with the Salt Lake technical staff on Friday, November 21 to discuss a proposal to re-design the reclamation of the School House Canyon waste rock facility. Mr. Pappas is proposing to reclaim that site via establishment of a drainage through the center of the Canyon, "V"ing the side slopes back to the top of each cut bank. Extensive work has already been done by Mr. Layne Jensen of EarthFax Engineering of Salt Lake City for the permittee.**

**9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues**

**The permittee has had Nielsen Construction install two barricades at each of the two airshaft locations in the Crandall Canyon facilities area. The barricades are constructed of six foot "T" posts, and flourescent orange poly snow fence material. It was recommended that "Danger-Keep Out" signs be wired to the fence material. Mr. Pappas agreed to have this done. Earth material continues to settle at the #1 shaft location.**

**12. Backfilling And Grading**

**As noted above, all backfilling and grading activities in the Crandall Canyon area have been completed.**

**13. Revegetation**

**As noted above, all revegetation activites in the Crandall Canyon area have been completed.**

**21. Bonding and Insurance**

**As noted above, the permittee has completed all of the approved reclamation activities in the Crandall Canyon area. As noted in Exhibit 20, Section 3.7, Crandall Canyon, Willow Creek Mine, a reclamation bond in the amount of $1, 251,000 exists for the Crandall Canyon area.**